

NOTORIOUS HUMBERTS SECURE ACQUITTAL ON ONE CHARGE

(ASSOCIATED PRESS CABLEGRAMS.)

PARIS, Feb. 21.—The Humberts have been acquitted on one of the charges brought against them in the great swindling case. Banker Cattani, of Rue Lafayette, who was alleged to have been swindled out of 1,050,000 francs, was unable to give sufficient evidence against them to secure a conviction on a charge of libel. But there yet remains a large number of charges against them as they are alleged to have secured over sixty million francs, or \$12,000,000 from the various bankers on the continent, and many of the latter were heavier losers than Banker Cattani.

The case as far as it refers to Banker Cattani does not affect the main charges against the Humberts as the former merely brought a suit for libel against them charging that the libel consisted in their statements that he was a usurer.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 21.—The railroads have been instructed to prepare for the transportation of 25,000 regular troops of all arms to Salonica.

ROME, Feb. 21.—The Pope has enjoined all Catholics in Macedonia and Albania to refrain from taking part in political demonstrations.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—The prospects are bright for the settlement of the Irish land question.

London advices received by the last mail indicated that the Balfour Ministry would soon introduce legislation of a most radical kind in Parliament. The proposed measure promises to be a bill dealing with the land question in such a manner as to completely settle the long standing strife in Ireland concerning the ownership of land and the rights of tenants and landlords. The bill was to provide for the government practically buying up all the landlords in Ireland, spending a hundred million pounds on the venture and placing the tenants to the number of nearly 400,000 in a position to readily acquire the land.

SALEM, Oregon, Feb. 21.—The fight for the United States senatorship ended through the election of C. W. Fulton, State Senator from Clatsop county. He is a Republican. There is a big Republican majority in both houses of the legislature but there were many candidates for the office, including ex-Governor T. T. Geer, Bing Hermann, ex-Commissioner of the General Land Office, and Jonathan Bourne, a mining operator of Portland.

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 21.—Chinese labor is to be introduced into the new colonies for mining and agricultural purposes.

Coolies will be brought here under the indenture system and at the end of their term of service will be returned to China. The Rand financiers propose to use 100,000 Chinese in the mines and many of these will be employed on the deeper levels. The operators think that with the aid of the Chinese they can mine at a depth of 12,000 feet.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 21.—The House debated the Fowler Currency bill today and the Senate the Panama treaty. There was no action in either case.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 21.—General Miles tonight banqueted Chief Joseph, his old antagonist in the Nez Percés campaign.

EL PASO, Feb. 21.—The quarantine on Mexican cattle has been taken off owing to the abatement of disease among them.

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Seven men have been arrested for conducting fake lotteries. There are many victims.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 21.—The oceanic steamer Sierra left for Honolulu and the Colonies today at 2 p. m.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Feb. 21.—Sugar 88 analysis beets, 8s. 2 1-4d.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 21.—The corner stone of the new Army War College was laid today with impressive ceremonies.

OTTAWA, Canada, Feb. 21.—It is reported here that Canada will protest against United States Senators Lodge and Turner serving on the Alaska Boundary Commission.

HAVANA, Cuba, Feb. 21.—The Cuban Department of Foreign Relations has issued a strong plea urging the ratification of the reciprocity treaty with the United States.

ITHACA, N. Y., Feb. 21.—The epidemic of typhoid fever at Cornell University has reached an alarming stage. Ten students have died and many more are leaving for their homes.

LONDON, England, Feb. 21.—Members of the English Cabinet replying to criticism of alliance with Germany openly defend their cooperation with Germany in the Venezuelan affair.

CARACAS, Venezuela, Feb. 21.—The ships of the Venezuelan navy captured by the Allies have not yet been returned. This causes a very serious situation for Castro's government, as the revolutionists are importing arms and munitions of war through the unprotected ports.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 21.—The long fight over the Statehood bill which is blocking action in the Senate on a host of important measures is likely to result in a compromise whereby Arizona and New Mexico will be admitted as one State, to be called Montezuma. The plan also includes the admission of Oklahoma and Indian Territory as one State.

PARIS, France, Feb. 21.—The Panama Canal Company has thus far refused to accept the offer of the United States for the purchase of its rights recently made through Attorney General Knox. German interests are actively at work to prevent the consummation of the deal. While the opposition Germany is offering is a strong one, American representatives are hopeful of carrying through the deal.

LONDON, Feb. 22.—The Belgium-Venezuela protocol has been signed. Belgium is entirely satisfied with its provisions.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Germany has demanded of Minister Bowen the immediate payment of \$5000 as one of the stipulations of the protocol. Bowen has refused to agree to any such payment before March.

The motive of Germany in making such a demand at this stage of the proceedings is unknown, but a satisfactory settlement is still expected.

SOUTH BEND, Ind. Feb. 22.—A mob of strikers today attacked the power house of the Indiana Railway Company. The building was defended by police and non-union employees and seven of the strikers were injured. They were beaten off without damage to the Power House.

SHELTON, Conn. Feb. 22.—Three reservoirs near this city broke today under pressure of the floods and the floods caused losses aggregating \$100,000 to mills and residences here. No lives are reported lost.

Shelton is a manufacturing town of 2000 inhabitants situated on the Housatonic River opposite Derby. The water power of the small streams is secured by the locating of a series of reservoirs, one above the other, and when one breaks from the force of floods it usually carries out the remainder of the dams.

NEW YORK, Feb. 22.—James A. Bailey, whose fame as a circus manager is world wide, died here today. He was formerly from Philadelphia and with a brother was in the circus business for many years prior to the consolidation of his shows with those of P. T. Barnum. Since that time he has taken the combined shows through Europe and became one of the best known men in the entertainment world.

OWENSBORO, Ky. Feb. 22.—The Ohio river has reached flood height and there is danger of heavy losses throughout the valley.

MOSCOW, Feb. 22.—The village of Pautovitski, near this city, was destroyed by fire today. Twelve persons were burned to death.

READING, Pa. Feb. 22.—The strike of coal miners was renewed at the Krawick colliery today.

REPUBLICANS WILL ELECT CHAIRMEN IN HOME RULE PLACES

Find That Rules Give Them Power to Control All the Committees.

Legislative action will begin in earnest this week as all that has been done so far in the four days of session must be considered as a curtain raiser to the real working of the two houses. The numbers of bills, of which notice have been given by committees excellent and the outlook is that no time will be lost. The House will get down to business, and if rumors are to be credited, in more ways than one. The dissatisfaction over the committees of the lower branch grows rather than disappears. The responsibility of the Republicans for this legislation has caused a feeling of some irritation that two such committees as those on Public Lands and Internal Improvements and Accounts should be in the hands of Home Rule. The former has the expenditure of large amounts which will include every Territorial work, appropriation or provision and by its accomplishment must the legislature be judged very largely. On the other hand the Accounts committee will have the spending of the public money for carrying on the session, and there again a record can be made. In this connection the following, Rule 21, is interesting:

"The first person named on the committee shall be the chairman, unless the committee elect another. The chairman shall call meetings and preside and a clerk may be appointed." It is now understood that acting under this rule there will be immediate elections of new chairmen for the committees which according to Speaker Beckley were to be presided over by Home Rule. There may be no change in the existing committee as Fernandez is said to be satisfactory, but in the two committees mentioned above it is almost certain that there will be changes made.

Greenwell has been mentioned for the Accounts committee as he is a careful business man and would scrutinize expenditures with great care.

For the Public Lands and Internal

Improvements committee Wright is in the lead with Lewis favored by some. Wright will be one of the workers of the session and his thought runs along lines which would make him a valuable man at the head of this committee. He already has in course of preparation a measure for sales and recovery of lands, based to an extent on the land laws of New Zealand. He favors roads throughout the islands and has a comprehensive acquaintance with the needs of the group.

This solution of the difficulty of having the dominant party made responsible for the actions of the majority is so absolute that the working together of the two houses, as the Republicans now will absolutely control both, is assured.

There may be introduced also a departure as to local legislatures but something that is well understood and constantly followed in the States. The Rules committee may play a greater part than ever before. There are so many important matters to come up for special bills or fixing the time for a vote, referred to the Rules committee would have the effect of a House order if passed, and in consequence it is probable that the County bill and each other great measures may be considered under special rules, in effect thus establishing closure.

The Senate will get to work on the County bill this week and its many matters will be rushed along.

Members of the Legislature are faring well at the hands of the Sergeant-at-Arms this session. Each found on his desk the other day a handsome fountain pen with most approved special ink bottle, and a pen knife with pearl handle, which was a gift worthy of the man who received the votes of so many members. It is supposed these were presents for no authorization for such purchases, amounting to close to \$200, had been made. Some of the members were new to the use of the pens but they soon caught the angles and write notes all the while now.

SISAL IS A TRIUMPH OF SMALL FARMING IN HAWAII

All the sisal fibre that Hawaii can produce can find a ready market at San Francisco. There is no uncertainty, however, that the islands will be able to fulfill the requirements of at least one of the largest cordage companies in the United States for at least three or four years. The Tubbs Cordage Company of San Francisco, which is handling the output of the Hawaiian Fibre Company, of Sisal, Oahu, pronounces the Hawaiian sisal of No. 1 quality, equal to the finest fibre handled by them from other sources of supply, and the corporation would like to receive 1200 tons per year from here. The present output of the Hawaiian Fibre Company is between 120 and 140 tons per year, although in February, 1904, the company expects to double this amount.

The Tubbs Cordage Company has received two monthly shipments of fifty bales of 500 pounds to the bale and after passing the product through their mills, have sent the following report to Manager A. H. Turner, which was received in the China's mail:

"The sisal is a No. 1 fibre fully up to the standard of good current sisal, fully equal to the R. M. mark of Molina's sisal. It is well cleaned and packed in the bales in fine shape, all straight with no kinks in it, which is very rare with other marks. There is no need of putting on burlap covers on the bales at all. We do not like the wire ties very well. All sisal is bound with fibre bands and can be used, whereas the wire has to be thrown away. The weight of bale does not matter; a 500-pound bale is all right, although the usual size is from 375 to 400 pounds.

"The fibre for good current sisal should not be less than thirty-six inches long; if put up any shorter it will bring a lower price; we can use a fibre twenty-four inches long but not as a No. 1 fibre as by working it alone it makes an uneven yarn and of course does not make a nice looking rope.

"If there is any other information that I can give you I shall be pleased to do so. I should like very much to get all the sisal we use from your place—that would be about 1200 tons a year." The Hawaiian Fibre Company has made two shipments to San Francisco, or about twelve tons each time. The Tubbs people waited until the second shipment had arrived so as to compare the two and found both of excellent quality.

"We are turning out about 1500 pounds a day," said Manager Turner yesterday, "and that is the present capacity of our mill. Sisal plants which were cut three months ago are ready to be cut again, but will be given three months longer growth before this is done, so that each plant will be fully matured. We have had a favorable season and the rains have brought the plants along nicely. We are using the Todd fibre cleaning machine. One such

machine used at Cargill Creek, Andros, Bahamas, gives 700 pounds a day with eleven laborers in the mill and forty laborers employed in the field. Another mill, there putting out 1,000 pounds a day employs eleven men in the mill and fifty in the field. We are putting out the same number of pounds, or half a ton, with only twenty-five men. Japanese are employed at our plantation and they are painstaking laborers and give the best results.

"In this connection it might be of interest to those interested in this new industry that the receipts from the first crop will pay for all the expenditures beginning with the breaking of the ground for the plants, putting up houses on the land, putting in the water system, mill machinery, wages and salaries, or the total expenses up to the marketing of this crop. In our case it was a period of between three and four years before the first crop was taken off.

"Sometime ago I said we would have in this country 100,000 acres inside of six years devoted to the cultivation of sisal. What I mean by this is that the sisal business will be so popular that there will be enough plants raised here in that time to cover 100,000 acres of land. The main question is the getting of the plants for covering this area. Our own plantation will give about 1,000,000 plants a year. Financial operators can readily see that sisal is a paying business.

"Last year thousands of plants were taken to Mr. Knudsen's place on Kauai and are now being propagated and in a short time they will be ready for planting on the sandy area which I went over and pronounced suitable for sisal.

"The success, which our company has attained in this new industry demonstrates that it is a paying one and that there is a demand for every pound of sisal that can be produced. We are going ahead with the increase of our area of cultivation and will extend it steadily."

Death of James Auld.

James Auld, a part Hawaiian, and one of the oldest and best printers of these islands, died yesterday morning, aged 61. As a partner of Captain J. H. Bush he once owned and published the Advertiser. In the earliest days of the Star he was a valued member of its mechanical force, and had worked in other local offices. Mr. Auld was twice married, and a son by his first wife was killed in a drawbridge accident at Oakland. He has one son living, and several step-children. In the days of the monarchy of Kalakaua, Mr. Auld was persona grata at the palace, and he was always liked by his associates in all walks of life. The funeral will take place today at a o'clock from the H. H. Williams undertaking parlors. Burial will be in the Catholic cemetery.

CIRCUIT COURT AT HILO SAT UPON 160 CASES DURING TERM

HILO, February 20.—The January term of the Fourth Circuit Court adjourned sine die Wednesday afternoon after a long and arduous term's work. The regular term and the extension of ten days were consumed in the trial of a very heavy calendar of cases. In all there were about 160 cases tried, among them several murder cases and will contests of importance. The long hours and prolonged term weighed heavily on court, jurors, attorneys and litigants alike, and all were glad to see the end.

SHERIFF ANDREWS WATCHED. Sheriff Andrews was presented with a gold watch last Friday by Judge Little on behalf of the police of Hawaii. He has just ended his twenty-fifth year in the police service of the islands.

WHAT HAWAII WANTS.

The report of the committee appointed at the Hilo public meeting recommending changes in the county bill will be sent to Honolulu on the Kinau. The committee wants East Hawaii divided into five districts, with a supervisor for each. They want also the office of tax collector abandoned and taxes paid direct to the treasurer.

They ask for the election of district magistrates, and that policemen be included in the list of public officials to give bonds. The committee wants the income tax exemption raised to \$2,000, and that health matters be under the control of the supervisors. The committee also favors the Kaula educational bill putting schools under control of counties.

A QUEER RAID.

Mr. and Mrs. William Fernandez were arrested last week for unlawful cohabitation, but at the trial before Judge Hapai exhibited a marriage certificate proving their marriage in Honolulu in 1895. Rev. H. H. Parker officiating. The defendants were accordingly dismissed. The police say the arrest was made on a sworn complaint, which is not made public.

HILO WEDDING.

All of fashionable Hilo attended the wedding of Miss Melinda Canario to W. J. Stone, which was held Wednesday evening at the home of the bride's parents. Rev. Father Oliver officiated, and there was a large attendance of guests.

HILO NEWS NOTES.

The Junior Endeavorers gave a Valentine social last Friday evening.

Lopez, the Porto Rican who escaped, was given five months for breaking jail. Torres, his companion, was given the same sentence, and both were held to the grand jury for other crimes.

School Inspector Baldwin has returned from a trip to Kau, where he says the people want county control of schools.

St. Clair Biddgood has arrived to take charge of the Volcano House.

Prof. Henshaw is hunting birds and other natural history specimens in Hamakua.

"Beckley County" has been suggested as a substitute for East Hawaii.

C. L. Wight, president of the Wilder's Steamship Company, was a Kinau passenger.

It is rumored that the Hilo Railroad Company will extend its line to the Volcano House within two years.

George Robertson, manager for C. Brewer & Co., passed through Hilo last week on his way to visit the Pahala Plantation and the Kapapala Ranch.

George C. Hewitt, manager of the Hutchinson Sugar Plantation, was in the city yesterday to attend the meeting of the Sugar Planters of Hawaii.

C. E. Presson, chief clerk of the railway mail service on the islands, was in the city this week between boats. He returns to Honolulu today.

At the meeting of the Planters' Association of the Island of Hawaii, held yesterday, the following delegation was elected to attend the quarterly meeting of the Hawaiian Planters' Association at Honolulu: Messrs. J. T. Moir of Papekou, John Ross of Hakalau, and D. Forbes of Hamakua.

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TRYING TO WORK OFF A HAWAIIAN GOLD BRICK ON MAINLAND CAPITALISTS

The following remarkable screed, written as a personal letter, is being circulated among mainland capitalists by the Chicago firm named in the text:

Townsend Smith, Real Estate and Loans, 112 Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill. Tel. Central 3238.

We beg to call your attention to the finest and best paying investment ever entered on our books. We believe the following described property will pay 50 per cent net income annually and increase 100 times in value. The Koa (Standard) wood alone will pay net 5 times the total cost of the property. There are 185,629 acres on the south side of the island of Hawaii. There are 40,000 acres of the finest pasture land on the island. 200 farms of 160 acres each could be leased at \$2.00 an acre cash, or produce a rent roll of \$64,000 a year. These lands will produce nearly everything raised on the islands or on the coast. There is also the finest merchantable timber on the island. This timber consists of Koa and Kou woods and true Sandal woods, together with Ohia wood and many other varieties. Both Koa and Kou are cabinet woods and sell readily both on the island and in the States for \$140 to \$160 per thousand. There are millions of feet of Koa and Kou woods. There are also upon this ranch large herds of cattle, horses, mules, donkeys, sheep and goats. None have been sold for 10 years. In March, 1902, Capt. Ross and a man who knew every acre made a careful count of the cattle and there were 6,000 head. There are large colonies of goats at different points and Mr. Jones, the former owner, used to ship thousands of goat skins every year and this could be done again. These lands at a conservative value are worth \$150,000 an acre.

This property has a long sea line, has one good harbor. Every steamer from the coast brings large quantities of meat. Beef sells at 15 to 25 cents per pound, mutton the same; pork is 30 cents per pound, chickens \$1.00 to \$1.50 apiece, ducks are \$1.00 apiece, turkeys are 40 to 60 cents per pound, eggs are 40 to 60 cents per dozen, and vegetables are correspondingly high.

One company pays the Oceanic S. S. Co. a flat rate of \$4,800 a month for cold storage from Papekou to Honolulu, this is approximately \$60,000 a year for freights on meats. Any one running this as a ranch alone would have \$60,000 a year the advantage of their competitors.

It is the finest field for ranch purposes of any on earth. There is a ready sale for everything that can be raised on this ranch, and many times more than this ranch can produce. Conducted purely as a cattle ranch it should yield \$150,000 a year.

On one side this property joins the Hawaiian Agricultural Co., a \$1,000,000 corporation, and on the other side by the Kapapala, which is owned by Brewer & Co., which paid the snug dividend of 57 per cent last year, a \$2,000,000 corporation, and the Kapapala is not as good a paying property as this ranch would be. The estate resembles very much that of the Ohaa and that is the largest sugar estate in the world. It produces upwards of 100,000 tons of sugar a year. All that is required to make this a regular mint is energy and skill. The owner of this ranch is a multi-millionaire and has never bothered with it since he purchased it. He is over 80 years old and as deaf as a post, and no one can deliver this property except myself. We would not give bonds or agreement or an option of any kind, because the owner is indifferent to selling, but he will sell as he longs to return to the State of California, where his heart is, he being one of the fathers of the State and a warm friend of Gen. Sutter. The title to this property is good. It is the largest fee simple estate on the island; the title is in fee simple without mortgages, liens, encumbrances or strings of any kind. One signature is required to give a clear title to a princely estate. If we had a check in his name for \$250,000, will deliver the deed and all the properties.

This is a highly colored prospectus of the Norris ranch, some 60,000 acres of which were covered by one of two lava flows that ran over it years ago.

Col. Norris once sold the ranch through his agent, J. O. Carter. The price was \$100,000 and the buyers were Brewer & Company or the Hawaiian Agricultural Company. The price was tendered in the form of a check, but when Norris found that the purchaser was a "missionary firm," he repudiated the deal. The matter went into the courts and Justice Judd held that the tender of the check could not bind the deal. This was a number of years ago and the values of the land are not believed to be much greater than in those days.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. Feb. 22.—Four lives were lost in the floods here today.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Feb. 23.—Surgeon General Wyman made a statement today that San Francisco is free from plague. He considers the health situation satisfactory.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Turkey, Feb. 23.—The Sultan of Turkey has agreed to adopt the reforms demanded by the Powers, but his Government continues the purchase of munitions of war.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Feb. 23.—The House Committee voted today not to report the Ship Subsidy Bill at this session. This is the Frye-Hanna bill which was a leading measure of the long session.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Feb. 23.—Minister Bowen flatly refuses to consider the demand of Germany for the immediate payment of \$5,000 on its claim against Venezuela. Germany is now forced to negotiate regarding this claim direct with President Castro.